



UNITED STATES ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20460

MAY 30 2018

OFFICE OF CONGRESSIONAL
AND INTERGOVERNMENTAL RELATIONS

The Honorable Kyrsten Sinema
U.S. House of Representatives
Washington, D.C. 20515

Dear Congresswoman Sinema:

Thank you for your letter of November 7, 2017, to the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) regarding an agency directive to strengthen the independence of EPA's Federal Advisory Committees.

Scientific advisory boards are used to provide independent scientific advice to the agency. Members shall be independent of EPA, which shall include a requirement that no member of an EPA advisory committee be currently in receipt of EPA grants either as principal investigator or co-investigator or in a position that otherwise would reap substantial direct benefit from an EPA grant. We are looking forward to, and expect to fully utilize, the Science Advisory Board, Clean Air Scientific Advisory Committee, Board of Scientific Counselors, Science Advisory Committee on Chemicals, Scientific Advisory Panel (and many others) to ensure the highest quality of independent advice to provide a foundation for the agency's policies and decisions.

With these improvements to EPA's federal advisory committees, the agency is taking another step to provide the public with a better, more effective government.

Again, thank you for your letter. If you have further questions, please contact me, or your staff may contact Thea Williams in EPA's Office of Congressional and Intergovernmental Relations at (202)-564-2064 or williams.thea@epa.gov.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, which appears to read "Troy Lyons", is written over the typed name and title.

Troy M. Lyons
Associate Administrator